

10/579588

21

Annexure "A",

IAP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 17 MAY 2006

CLAIMS

1. A process for producing oxygenated products from a Fischer-Tropsch derived olefinic feedstock, which process includes reacting the feedstock, in a hydroformylation reaction stage, with carbon monoxide and hydrogen at an elevated reaction temperature and at a superatmospheric reaction pressure in the presence of a hydroformylation catalyst system, which comprises a mixture, combination or complex of
 - 10 (i) $\text{Rh}(\text{acac})(\text{CO})_2$ where 'acac' is acetylacetone, $\text{Rh}(\text{acac})(\text{CO})(\text{TPP})$ where 'acac' is acetylacetone and 'TPP' is triphenylphosphine, $[\text{Rh}(\text{OAc})_2]_2$ where 'OAc' is acetate, Rh_2O_3 , $\text{Rh}_4(\text{CO})_{12}$, $\text{Rh}_6(\text{CO})_{16}$, $\text{Rh}(\text{CO})_2$ (dipivaloyl methanoate), or $\text{Rh}(\text{NO}_3)_2$;
 - 15 (ii) carbon monoxide, CO;
 - (iii) hydrogen, H_2 ;
 - (iv) as a primary ligand, a monodentate phosphorus ligand; and
 - (v) as a secondary ligand, a bidentate phosphorus ligand which confers resistance on the catalyst system to poisoning arising from the presence of undesired components in the Fischer-Tropsch derived feedstock.
2. A process according to Claim 1, wherein the hydroformylation reaction stage comprises a hydroformylation reactor, with the process including initially preparing the catalyst system by dissolving component (i), together with the ligands, in a solvent, to produce a catalyst solution, and heating the catalyst solution in the reactor in the presence of synthesis gas comprising CO and H_2 to form an active hydroformylation catalyst system in which the rhodium concentration in the catalyst solution in the hydroformylation reactor is from 10 to 30 1000 ppm.

3. A process according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, wherein the monodentate phosphorus ligand is used in a molar excess, relative to the rhodium, of from 50:1 to 1000:1.

5 4. A process according to any one of Claims 1 to 3 inclusive, wherein the bidentate phosphorus ligand is employed at a lower ligand to rhodium molar ratio than the monodentate phosphorus ligand, and wherein the bidentate phosphorus ligand to rhodium ratio is from 0.2:1 to 100:1.

10 5. A process according to any one of Claims 1 to 4 inclusive, wherein the monodentate phosphorus ligand is



where all R^a are the same or are dissimilar, and are each a branched or straight chain alkyl or aryl radical.

15 6. A process according to Claim 5 wherein, in the ligand of formula (L1a), each R^a is an aryl group and all R^a are the same.

7. A process according to Claim 6 wherein, in the ligand of formula 20 (L1a), each R^a is phenyl so that ligand (L1a) is triphenylphosphine.

8. A process according to any one of Claims 1 to 4 inclusive, wherein the monodentate phosphorus ligand is



25 where all R^a are the same or are dissimilar, and are each a branched or straight chain alkyl or aryl radical.

9. A process according to Claim 8 wherein, in the ligand of formula 30 (L1b), each R^a is an aryl group and all R^a are the same.

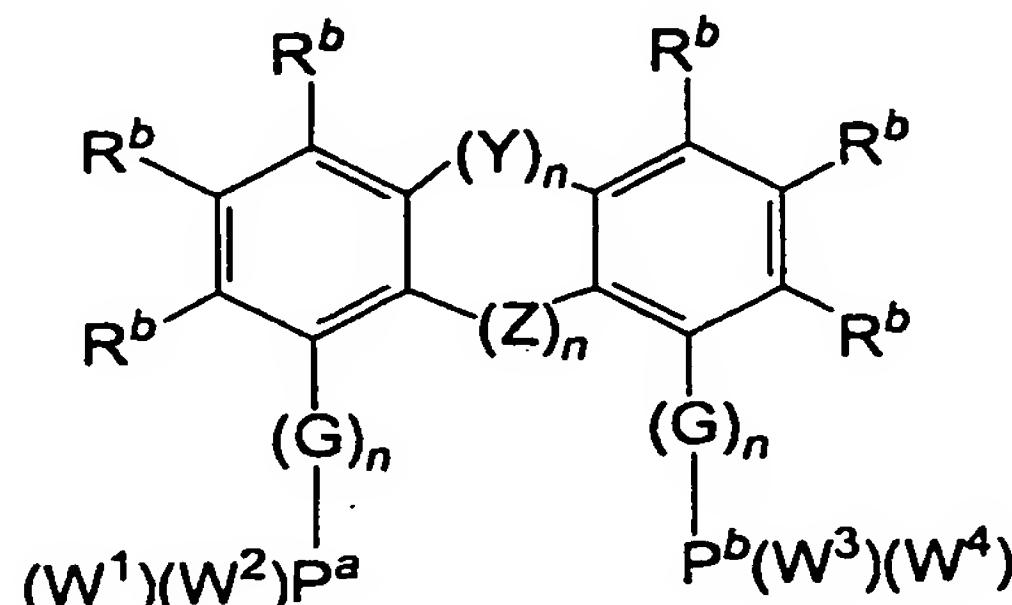
10. A process according to Claim 9 wherein, in the ligand of formula (L1b), each R^a is a substituted phenyl ring.

11. A process according to Claim 10, wherein the ligand (L1b) is
5 tris(2,4-ditertiary butylphenyl) phosphite or tris(2-tertiary butylphenyl) phosphite.

12. A process according to any one of Claims 1 to 11 inclusive, wherein
the bidentate phosphorus ligand is

10

15



(L2a)

20 wherein

(i) all R^b are the same or are dissimilar, and are each H, alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy, polyether, cyano, nitro, halogen, trifluoromethyl, -C(O)R^c, -(R^d)C(O)R^c, -CHO, (R^d)CHO, -COOR^c, -(R^d)COOR^c, -COO⁻M⁺, -(R^d)COO⁻M⁺, -SO₃R^c, -(R^d)SO₃R^c, -SO₃⁻M⁺, -(R^d)SO₃⁻M⁺, -SR^c, -(R^d)SR^c, -SOR^c, -R^d(SOR^c), -NR^c, -(R^d)NR^c, -N⁺(R^c)(R^c)(X⁻) or -(R^d)N⁺(R^c)(R^c)(X⁻), wherein

25 (a) R^c and R^d are the same or different, and are each H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical;
30 (b) M⁺ is a cation; and

(c) X^- is an anion;

(ii) Y and Z are independent bridges, are the same or different, and are each selected from the radicals $-O-$, $-N(R^c)-$, $-N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)-$, $-N(C(O)R^c)-$, $-C(R^c)(R^c)-$, $-C(C(R^c)(R^c))-$, $-C(O)-$, $-S-$, $-Si(R^c)(R^c)-$, $-Si(OR^c)(OR^c)-$, $-P(R^c)-$ or $-P(OR^c)-$, where R^c and X^- are as hereinbefore defined;

5 (iii) n (in $(Y)_n$ and $(Z)_n$) is, in each case, 0 or 1, with the proviso that n cannot be 0 for both Y and Z;

(iv) W^1 , W^2 , W^3 and W^4 are the same or different, and are each an alkyl (branched or straight chain), alkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy or trifluoromethyl radical;

10 (v) a, b, in P^a and P^b , are used merely to identify the P atoms;

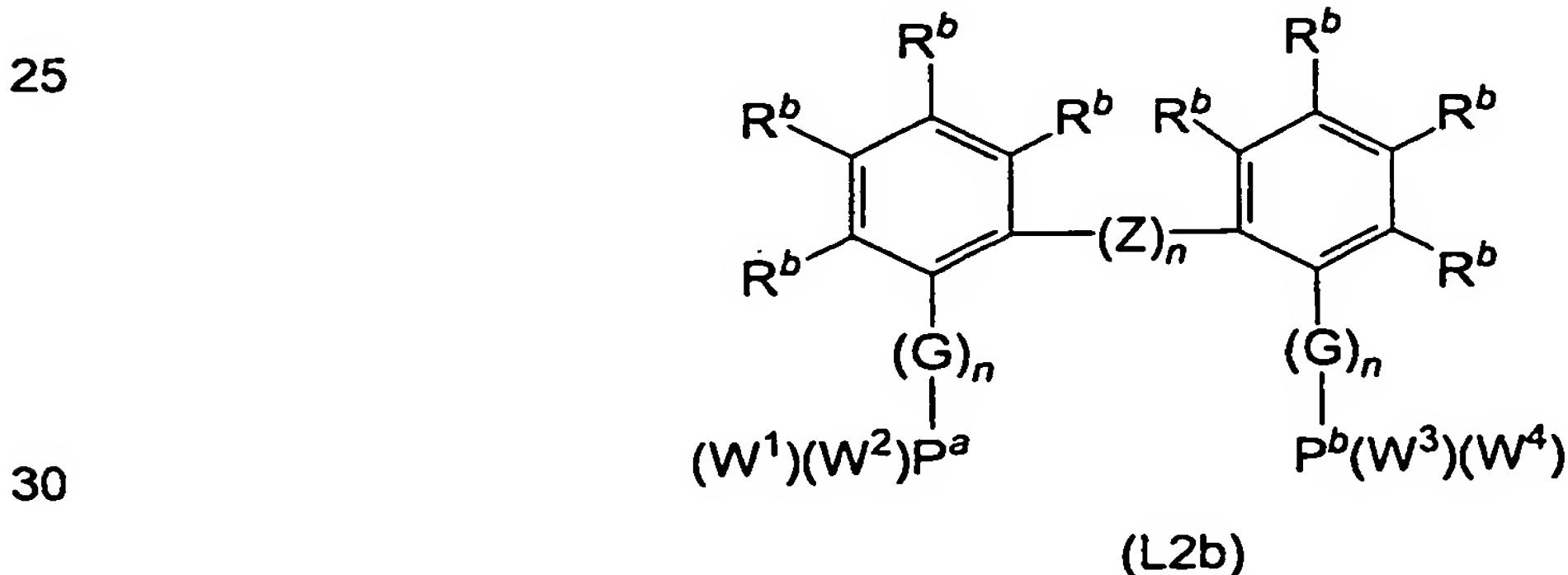
(vi) each G is an independent linker radical, are the same or different, and is selected from $-O-$, $-N(R^f)-$, $-N^+(R^f)(R^f)(X^-)-$, $-C(R^f)(R^f)-$, $-S-$, $-Si(R^f)(R^f)-$, $-C(F_2)-$ or $-C(R^f)(F)-$, wherein

15 (a) R^f is H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical, and with the proviso that when the radical contains more than one R^f , all R^f are the same or different;

(b) X^- is as defined above; and

20 (vii) n (in each $(G)_n$) is 0 or 1.

13. A process according to any one of Claims 1 to 11 inclusive, wherein the bidentate phosphorus ligand is



wherein

(i) all R^b are the same or are dissimilar, and are each H, alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy, polyether, cyano, nitro, halogen, trifluoromethyl, $-C(O)R^c$, $-(R^d)C(O)R^c$, $-CHO$, $(R^d)CHO$, $-COOR^c$, $-(R^d)COOR^c$, $-COO^-M^+$, $-(R^d)COO^-M^+$, $-SO_3R^c$, $-(R^d)SO_3R^c$, $-SO_3^-M^+$, $-(R^d)SO_3^-M^+$, $-SR^c$, $-(R^d)SR^c$, $-SOR^c$, $R^d(SOR^c)$, $-NR^c$, $-(R^d)NR^c$, $-N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)$ or $-(R^d)N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)$, wherein

(a) R^c and R^d are the same or different, and are each H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical;

(b) M^+ is a cation; and

(c) X^- is an anion;

(ii) Z is an independent bridge, and is selected from the radicals $-O-$, $-N(R^c)-$, $-N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)-$, $-N(C(O)R^c)-$, $-C(R^c)(R^c)-$, $-C(C(R^c)(R^c))-$, $-C(O)-$, $-S-$, $-Si(R^c)(R^c)-$, $-Si(OR^c)(OR^c)-$, $-P(R^c)-$ or $-P(OR^c)-$, where R^c and X^- are as defined above;

(iii) n (in $(Z)_n$) is 1;

(iv) W^1 , W^2 , W^3 and W^4 are the same or different, and are each an alkyl (branched or straight chain), alkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy or trifluoromethyl radical;

(v) a, b, in P^a and P^b , are used merely to identify the P atoms;

(vi) each G is an independent linker radical, are the same or different, and is selected from $-O-$, $-N(R^f)-$, $-N^+(R^f)(R^f)(X^-)-$, $-C(R^f)(R^f)-$, $-S-$, $-Si(R^f)(R^f)-$, $-C(F_2)-$ or $-C(R^f)(F)-$, wherein

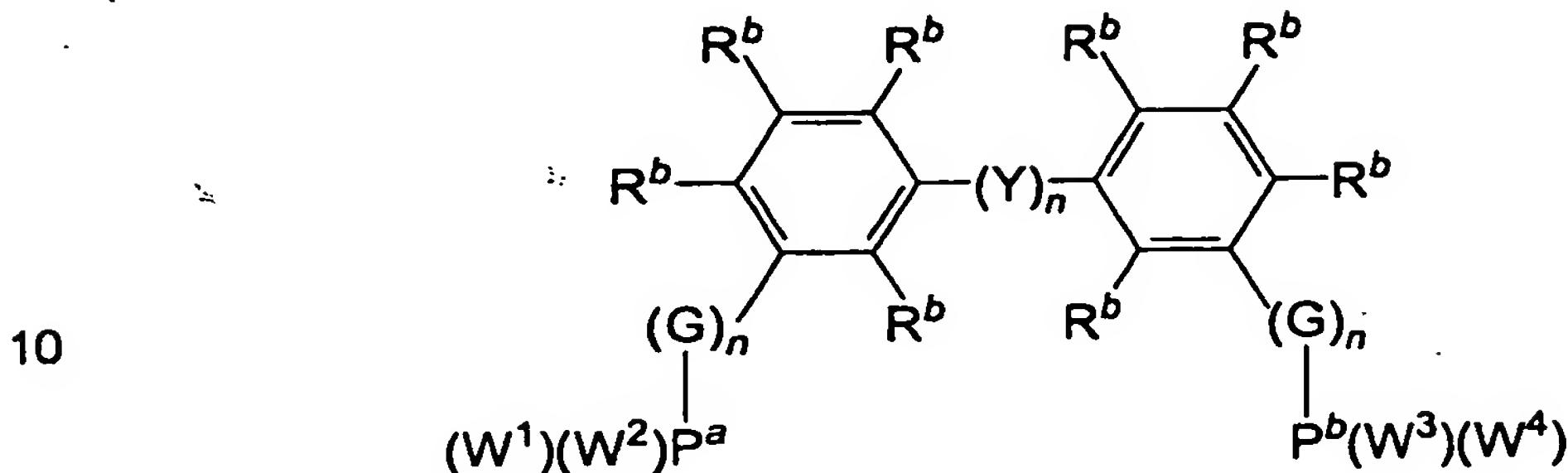
(c) R^f is H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical, and with the proviso that when the radical contains more than one R^f , all R^f are the same or different;

(d) X^- is as defined above; and

(vii) n (in each $(G)_n$) is 0 or 1.

14. A process according to any one of Claims 1 to 11 inclusive, wherein the bidentate phosphorus ligand is

5



(L2c)

15 wherein

(i) all R^b are the same or are dissimilar, and are each H, alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy, polyether, cyano, nitro, halogen, trifluoromethyl, $-C(O)R^c$, $-(R^d)C(O)R^c$, $-CHO$, $(R^d)CHO$, $-COOR^c$, $-(R^d)COOR^c$, $-COO^{\cdot}M^+$, $-(R^d)COO^{\cdot}M^+$, $-SO_3R^c$, $-(R^d)SO_3R^c$, $-SO_3^{\cdot}M^+$, $-(R^d)SO_3^{\cdot}M^+$, $-SR^c$, $-(R^d)SR^c$, $-SOR^c$, $R^d(SOR^c)$, $-NR^c$, $-(R^d)NR^c$, $-N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)$ or $-(R^d)N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)$, wherein

20 (a) R^c and R^d are the same or different, and are each H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical;

25 (b) M^+ is a cation; and

(c) X^- is an anion;

(ii) Y is an independent bridge, and is selected from the radicals $-O-$, $-N(R^c)-$, $-N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)-$, $-N(C(O)R^c)-$, $-C(R^c)(R^c)-$, $-C(C(R^c)(R^c))-$, $-C(O)-$, $-S-$, $-Si(R^c)(R^c)-$, $-Si(OR^c)(OR^c)-$, $-P(R^c)-$ or $-P(OR^c)-$, where R^c and X^- are as hereinbefore defined;

(iii) n (in $(Y)_n$) is 1;

(iv) W^1 , W^2 , W^3 and W^4 are the same or different, and are each an alkyl (branched or straight chain), alkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy or trifluoromethyl radical;

5 (v) a , b , in P^a and P^b , are used merely to identify the P atoms;

(vi) each G is an independent linker radical, are the same or different, and is selected from $-O-$, $-N(R^f)-$, $-N^+(R^f)(R^f)(X^-)-$, $-C(R^f)(R^f)-$, $-S-$, $-Si(R^f)(R^f)-$, $-C(F_2)-$ or $-C(R^f)(F)-$, wherein

(e) R^f is H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical, and with the proviso that when the radical contains more

10 than one R^f , all R^f are the same or different;

(f) X^- is as defined above; and

(vii) n (in each $(G)_n$) is 0 or 1.

15

15. A process according to any one of Claims 12 to 14 inclusive wherein, in the ligand (L2a), (L2b) or (L2c), M^+ is an ion of an alkali or alkali earth metal, or is ammonium or a quaternary ammonium ion.

20

16. A process according to any one of Claims 12 to 15 inclusive, wherein, in the ligand (L2a), (L2b) or (L2c), X^- is an organic acid, phosphate or sulphate group.

25

17. A process according to any one of Claims 12 to 16 inclusive wherein, in the ligand (L2a), (L2b) or (L2c), W^1 , W^2 , W^3 and W^4 are each an alkyl, aryl or aryloxy radical.

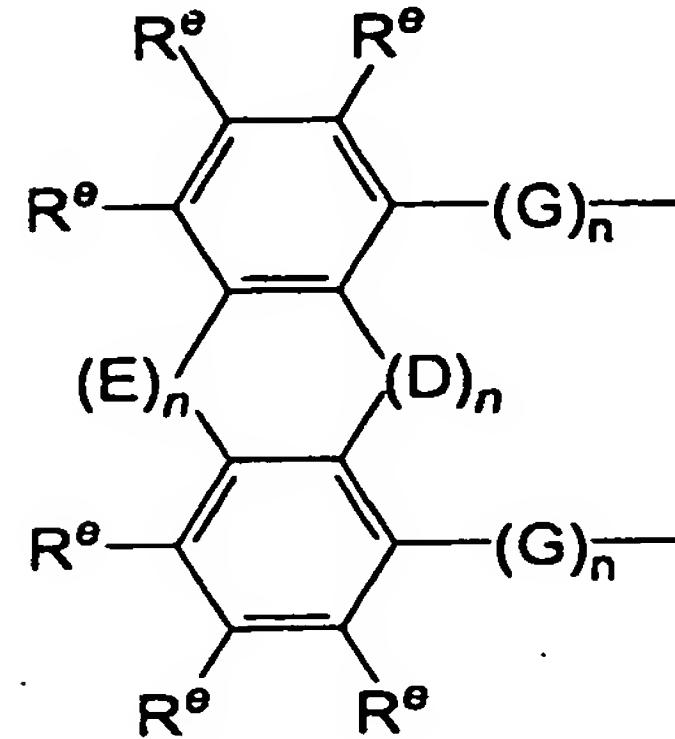
30

18. A process according to Claim 17 wherein, in the ligand (L2a), (L2b) or (L2c), W^1 , W^2 , W^3 and W^4 are each an aryl or aryloxy radical in accordance with formula (1), with the proviso that the structure of formula (1) does not represent a bridging unit connecting P^a to P^b – for P^a , W^1 and W^2 represent

radicals connected through their respective G linkers, and for P^b, W³ and W⁴ represent radicals connected through their respective G linkers

5

10



(1)

wherein

15 (i) all R^e are the same or are different, and are each H, alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy, polyether, cyano, nitro, halogen, trifluoromethyl, -C(O)R^c, -(R^d)C(O)R^c, -CHO, (R^d)CHO, -COOR^c, -(R^d)COOR^c, -COO⁻M⁺, -(R^d)COO⁻M⁺, -SO₃R^c, -(R^d)SO₃R^c, -SO₃⁻M⁺, -(R^d)SO₃⁻M⁺, -SR^c, -(R^d)SR^c, -SOR^c, -R^d(SOR^c), -NR^c, -(R^d)NR^c, -N⁺(R^c)(R^c)(X⁻) or -(R^d)N⁺(R^c)(R^c)(X⁻), wherein

20 (a) R^c and R^d are the same or different, and are each H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical;

25 (b) M⁺ is a cation; and

(c) X⁻ is an anion;

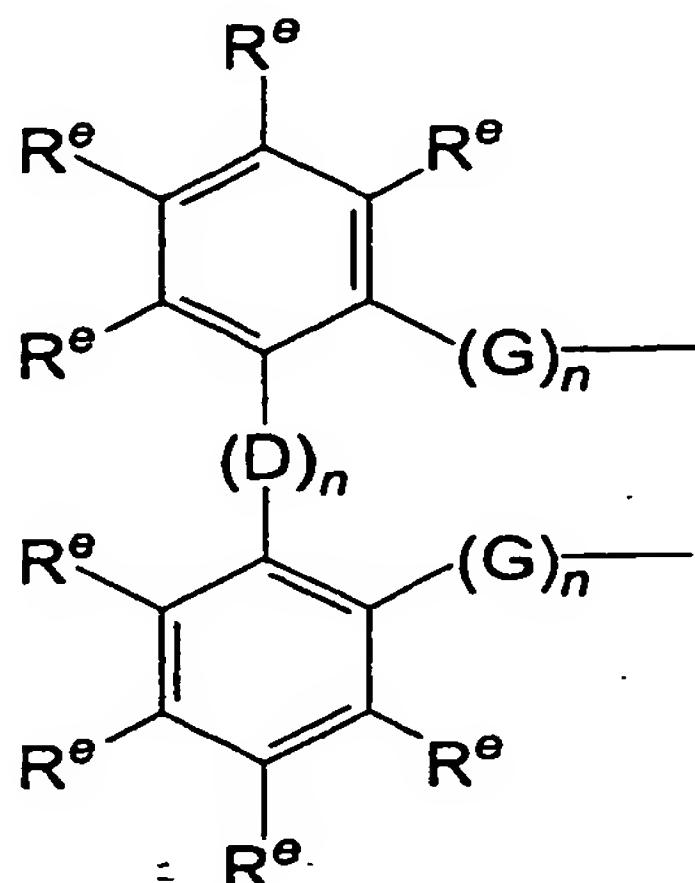
(ii) each G is an independent linker radical, are the same or different, and is selected from -O-, -N(R^f)-, -N⁺(R^f)(R^f)(X⁻)-, -C(R^f)(R^f)-, -S-, -Si(R^f)(R^f)-, -C(F₂)- or -C(R^f)(F)-, wherein

30 (d) R^f is H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical,

and with the proviso that when the radical contains more than one R^f , all R^f are the same or different;

- (e) X^- is as defined above; and
- (iii) n (in each $(G)_n$) is 0 or 1;
- 5 (iv) D and E are each an independent bridge, are the same or different, and are each selected from the radical, $-O-$, $-N(R^c)-$, $-N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)$, $-N(C(O)R^c)-$, $-N(SiR_2^c)-$, $-C(R^c)(R^c)-$, $-C(C(R^c)(R^c))-$; $-C(O)-$, $-S-$, $-Si(R^c)(R^c)-$, $-Si(OR^c)(OR^c)-$, $-P(R^c)-$ or $-P(OR^c)-$, wherein R^c is H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, 10 heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical, and X^- is as defined above;
- (v) n (in each of $(D)_n$ and $(E)_n$) is 0 or 1.

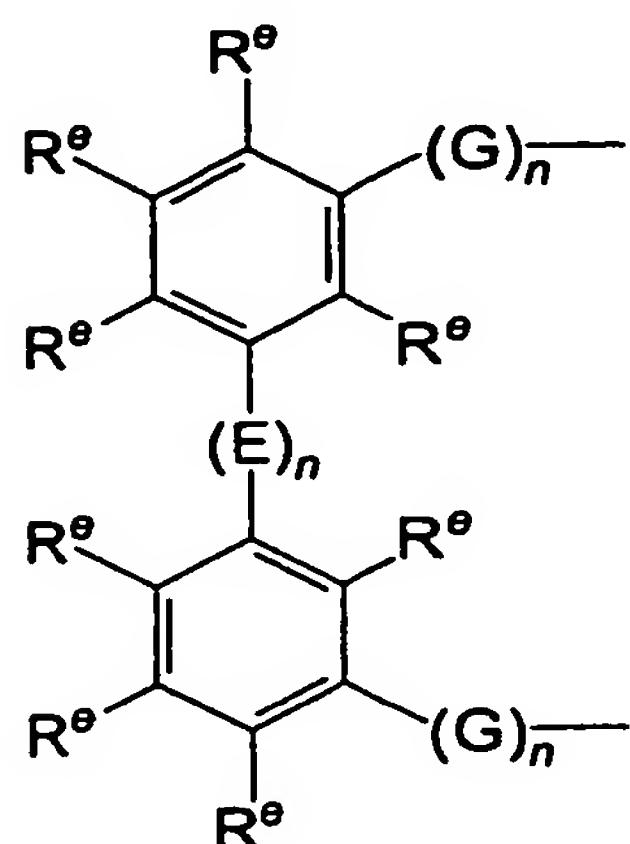
19. A process according to Claim 18 wherein, in formula (1), $n=0$, in 15 $(E)_n$, so that the independent E bridge is absent; formula (1) will then have the structure of formula (2)



(2)

20. A process according to Claim 18 wherein, in formula (1), $n=0$, in $(D)_n$, so that the independent D bridging is absent; formula (1) will then have the structure of formula (3)

5



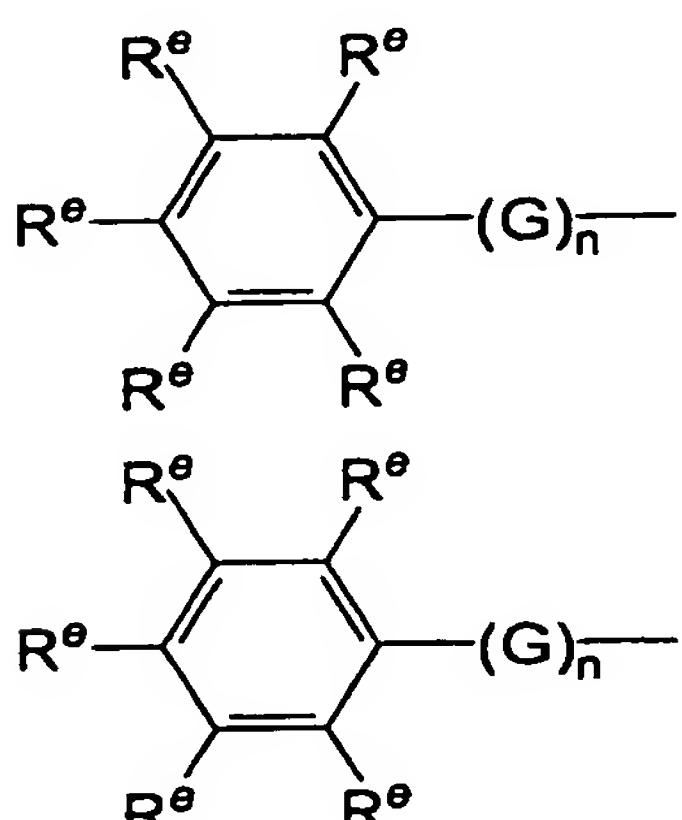
10

(3)

15

21. A process according to Claim 18 wherein, in formula (1), $n=0$, in both $(D)_n$ and $(E)_n$, so that both the independent bridges D and E are absent; formula (1) will then have the structure of formula (4)

20



25

(4)

30

22. A process according to any one of Claims 1 to 11 inclusive, wherein the bidentate phosphorus ligand is



5

(L2d)

wherein

- (i) each G is an independent linker radical, are the same or different, and is selected from $-O-$, $-N(R^f)-$, $-N^+(R^f)(R^f)(X^-)-$, $-C(R^f)(R^f)-$, $-S-$, $-Si(R^f)(R^f)-$, $-C(F_2)-$ or $-C(R^f)(F)-$, wherein
 - (a) R^f is H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical, and with the proviso that when the radical contains more than one R^f , all R^f are the same or different;
 - (b) X^- is an anion; and
- (ii) n (in each $(G)_n$) is 0 or 1;
- (iii) a, b, in P^a and P^b , are used merely to identify the P atoms;
- (iv) W^1 , W^2 , W^3 and W^4 are the same or different, and are each an alkyl (branched or straight chain), alkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy or trifluoromethyl radical; and
- (v) A is a bridging unit and is selected from one of the following diradicals: $-(CR^b_2)_n-$, $-(CR^b)_n-$, $-(CR^bCR^b)_n-$, $-[C(O)]_n-$, $-[C(O)C(R^b)_2]_n-$, $-(NR^b)_n-$, $-S-$, $-(SiR^b_2)_n-$, $-(SiOR^b_2)_n-$, with
 - (c) any alkyl radical having $n = 1$ to 5 and being cyclic, straight or branched or straight;
 - (d) R^b being H, alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy, polyether, cyano, nitro, halogen, trifluoromethyl, $-C(O)R^c$, $-(R^d)C(O)R^c$, $-CHO$, $(R^d)CHO$, $-COOR^c$, $-(R^d)COOR^c$, $-COO^-M^+$, $-(R^d)COO^-M^+$, $-SO_3R^c$, $-(R^d)SO_3R^c$, $-SO_3^-M^+$, $-(R^d)SO_3^-M^+$, $-SR^c$, $-$

$(R^d)SR^c$, $-SOR^c$, $-R^d(SOR^c)$, $-NR^c$, $-(R^d)NR^c$, $-N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)$ or $-(R^d)N^+(R^c)(R^c)(X^-)$, wherein

5 (e) R^c and R^d are the same or different, and are each H, or a branched or straight chain alkyl, alkoxy, cycloalkyl, polyether, cycloalkoxy, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl or aryloxy radical;

(f) M^+ is a cation; or

(vi) A is a bridging unit and is ' $-Ar-$ ', which is an aryl or heteroaryl group of between 4 and 18 carbon atoms.

10 23. A process according to any one of Claims 1 to 22 inclusive, wherein the reaction temperature is from 50°C to 150°C; the synthesis gas pressure under which the hydroformylation reaction is performed is from 1 to 100 bar; and the H₂:CO ratio is from 1:10 to 100:1.